

D. Remarks

The claims are 1-18, with claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 being independent. The independent claims have been amended to better define the present invention. Support for this amendment may be found, inter alia, in the specification at page 20, lines 10-12, and at page 33, lines 5-23. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the present claims is expressly requested.

The title of the invention is objected to by the Examiner for allegedly being not sufficiently descriptive. While Applicant disagrees with the Examiner, solely to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended the title and respectfully requests withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 11-13 and 15-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,963,255 (Anderson).

Claims 2, 9 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Anderson in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,527,630 (Nagata).

Claims 3, 10 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Anderson in view of Nagata and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,075,949 (Hatakenaka).

Claims 7, 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Anderson in view of Hatakenaka.

The grounds of rejection are respectfully traversed.

Prior to addressing the grounds of rejection, Applicant would like to briefly review some of the key features and advantages of the presently claimed invention. The

present invention, in part, is directed to an image processing apparatus and a method of controlling the same. This apparatus has a recording means, a display means or device, a judging means and a power supply control means. When the power supply control means reduces the electric power supplied to the display means or to the image processing apparatus, another display unit is used to show that a process is being executed. The power consumption of another display unit is lower than that of the above-mentioned display means or the image processing apparatus. This prevents excessive electrical power consumption while allowing the user to recognize that, for example, an image is being processed or that processing was stopped due to some problem in the apparatus (See page 33, lines 15-23).

Anderson is directed systems and methods for managing the power supply in electronic devices, such as digital cameras. Anderson teaches that the power supplied to the flash unit in the camera is stopped and power supplied to the entire apparatus is turned off in response to the information provided by voltage detector 76. However, Anderson does not disclose or suggest that when the power supply control means reduces electric power supplied to the display means or to the image processing apparatus, another display unit, with a power consumption that is lower than that of the display means or the image processing apparatus, is used to show that a process is being executed or has been stopped. As mentioned above, this is one of the key features of the presently claimed invention, providing advantages not disclosed or suggested by Anderson. Accordingly, Anderson cannot affect the patentability of the presently claimed invention.

Nagata cannot provide the teaching missing in Anderson. Nagata is directed to improvements of a battery check apparatus. While Nagata discloses displaying an alarm, this reference does not disclose or suggest that another display unit is used to display that a process is being executed when the power supply to an image display means is reduced.

Hatakenaka also cannot cure the deficiencies of Anderson and Nagata. Hatakenaka is directed to an electronic camera, which has plural display units. While Hatakenaka can probably cause one display unit to display or issue an alarm advising of a low power supply, this reference still does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed relationship between the two display units. In particular, Hatakenaka does not disclose or suggest that when the power control means reduces the electric power supplied to the display means or the image processing apparatus, another display unit, with a power consumption that is lower than that of the display means or to the image processing apparatus, is used to show that an process is being executed or has been stopped.


In conclusion, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references, whether considered separately or in any combination, fail to disclose or suggest the combination of elements presently claimed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are patentable over these references.

Wherefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the outstanding objection and rejections be withdrawn and the present case be passed to issue.



Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 48,512

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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